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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/574,596	04/05/2006	Motohiko Sako	MAT-8837US	4300
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RATNERPRESTIA				
P.O. BOX 980				
VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482				
EXAMINER				
KARACSONY, ROBERT				
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
2821				
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/574,596

Applicant(s)

SAKO, MOTOHIKO

Examiner

Robert Karacsony

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 April 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>04/05/2006</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities: On the second to last of claim 3, applicant recites the limitation “symmetrical positions each other”. Examiner interprets this as “symmetrical to each other”. Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Rutfors et al.* (US 2003/0189519, hereinafter *Rutfors*) in view of *Colburn et al.* (US 2005/0162321, hereinafter *Colburn*).

Claim 1: *Rutfors* teaches a composite antenna device comprising:

a ground board (10);

an unbalanced antenna (20) including

a first feeding point (24) coupled with the ground board (fig. 2),

a first radiator (22) having a first end (end of 22 connected to 24) and a second end (end opposite first end), the first end of the first radiator being connected with the first feeding point (fig. 2),

a load conductor (patch of 20) connected with the second end of the first radiator (fig. 2); and

a balanced antenna (231, fig. 2) including

- a second feeding point (34),
- a second radiator (231a, fig. 2) connected with the second feeding point, and
- a third radiator (231b, fig. 2) connected with the second feeding point,

wherein the second radiator and the third radiator are placed at positions symmetrical to each other (fig. 2) about a straight line (virtual line that passes through feed point 24 which is perpendicular to the ground plane), respectively, which passes through the first feeding point and which is perpendicular to the ground board and have shapes symmetrical to each other about the straight line (fig. 2).

Rutfors fails to teach the load conductor has a shape symmetrical about the straight line. *Rutfors* does teach that the PIFA antenna can be one of various antennas [0043]. *Colburn* teaches a PIFA antenna for mobile terminals that is symmetrical about the feed point that can exhibit dual resonance frequencies (fig. 1, Abstract). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have used the PIFA antenna of *Colburn* as the PIFA antenna of *Rutfors* in order to have obtained dual resonance frequencies which is well known to be advantageous in the field of mobile communications.

Claim 2 is similar in scope as claim 1 and is therefore rejected for substantially the same reasons. Claim 2 adds the limitation that the load conductor has a shape electrically symmetrical to the straight line. (If the modifications to the invention of *Rutfors* were made, as discussed above, one with ordinary skill in the art would have realized that since the load conductor is geometrically symmetrical it is inherently electrically symmetrical)

Claim 3 is similar in scope as claim 1 and is therefore rejected for substantially the same reasons. Claim 3 varies from claim 1 in that the load conductor has a shape symmetrical about a plane. (Examiner interprets the virtual line to be a virtual plane, each of which are positioned such that the elements are symmetrical about)

Claim 4 is similar in scope as claims 2 and 3 and is therefore rejected for substantially the same reasons.

Claim 5 is similar in scope as claim 1 and is therefore rejected for substantially the same reasons. If the modifications to the invention of *Rutfors* were made, as discussed above, one with ordinary skill in the art would have realized the load conductor has a first end (*Colburn* fig. 1, one end of metal plate 12), a second end (*Colburn* fig. 1, other end of metal plate 12 opposite first end) and a connection point (point which connects load conductor to feed), wherein the load conductor of the unbalanced antenna includes a first portion (*Colburn* fig. 1, one end of metal plate 12) and a second portion (*Colburn* fig. 1, other end of metal plate 12 opposite first end), the first portion of the load conductor being provided between the first end of the load conductor and the connection point (*Colburn* fig. 1), the second portion being provided between the second end of the load conductor and the connection point (*Colburn* fig. 1),

Rutfors fails to explicitly teach an impedance Z_{11} of the first portion of the load conductor, a mutual impedance Z_{12} of the second radiator to the first portion of the load conductor, a mutual impedance Z_{21} of the first portion of the load conductor to the second radiator, an impedance Z_{22} of the second radiator, an impedance Z_{33} of the second portion of the load conductor, a mutual impedance Z_{34} of the third radiator to the second portion of the

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load conductor, a mutual impedance Z_{43} of the second portion of the load conductor to the third radiator, and an impedance Z_{44} of the third radiator satisfy the relation of:

$$\begin{pmatrix} Z_{11} & Z_{12} \\ Z_{21} & Z_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Z_{33} & Z_{34} \\ Z_{43} & Z_{44} \end{pmatrix}.$$

However, *Rutfors* teaches an advantage of using a balanced and unbalanced antenna pair is that improved matching to the receiver/transmitter is achieved [0008], which will lower the coupling between the two antennas [0007]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have matched the impedance of the two antennas of *Rutfors* in order to have reduced the coupling between the two antennas.

Claim 6: *Rutfors* in view of *Colburn* teaches all of the limitations of claim 5, as discussed above. *Rutfors* fails to teach a mutual impedance Z_{14} of the third radiator to the first portion of the load conductor, a mutual impedance Z_{41} of the first portion of the load conductor to the third radiator, a mutual impedance Z_{23} of the second portion of the load conductor to the second radiator, and a mutual impedance Z_{32} of the second radiator to the second portion of the load conductor satisfy the relation of

$$\begin{pmatrix} Z_{11} & Z_{14} \\ Z_{43} & Z_{44} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} Z_{22} & Z_{23} \\ Z_{32} & Z_{33} \end{pmatrix}.$$

However, *Rutfors* teaches an advantage of using a balanced and unbalanced antenna pair is that improved matching to the receiver/transmitter is achieved [0008], which will lower the coupling between the two antennas [0007]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to have matched the impedance of the two antennas of *Rutfors* in order to have reduced the coupling between the two antennas.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert Karacsony whose telephone number is 571-270-1268. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 am - 5:00 pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Douglas W. Owens can be reached on 571-272-1662. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

RK *rk*

/Hoang V Nguyen/
Primary Examiner, AU 2821